

REMARKS

INTRODUCTION:

In the Office action mailed December 14, 2004, claims 2-18, 20-32, and 34-89 are allowed and claims 90 and 91 are rejected. In accordance with the foregoing, claims 90 and 91 are cancelled without prejudice or disclaimer.

REJECTION OF CLAIMS 90-91

The Office Action rejects claims 90 and 91 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent 5,109,279 issued to Ando in view of U.S. Patent 6,753,928 issued to Gospel et al.

Applicant cancels claims 90 and 91 without prejudice or disclaimer. Accordingly, withdrawal of the 35 U.S.C. §103(a) rejection is respectfully requested.

CONSIDERATION OF REFERENCES IN JANUARY 31, 2005 IDS

Applicant respectfully requests consideration of the references listed in the Form PTO-1449, which accompanied the information disclosure statement filed January 31, 2005. Applicant respectfully requests an initialed and signed copy of the form PTO-1449 as evidence of the Examiner's consideration of the references listed in the form PTO-1449.

CONCLUSION:

In accordance with the foregoing, claims 90 and 91 are cancelled without prejudice or disclaimer and claims 2-18, 20-32, and 34-89 are in condition for allowance.

There being no further outstanding objections or rejections, it is submitted that the application is in condition for allowance. An early action to that effect is courteously solicited.

If there are any formal matters remaining after this response, the Examiner is requested to telephone the undersigned to attend to these matters.

Respectfully submitted,

STAAS & HALSEY LLP

Date: March 14, 2005

By: 

Stephen T. Boughner
Registration No. 45,317

1201 New York Ave, N.W., Suite 700
Washington, D.C. 20005
Telephone: (202) 434-1500
Facsimile: (202) 434-1501